

Minutes
of the meeting of
Seascale Parish Council
held on
Wednesday 3rd February 2016 at 7pm
in the Methodist Schoolroom, Seascale

Present	Chair	Cllr David Moore
	Councillors	Cllr David Halliday Cllr Mrs Eileen Eastwood Cllr Kenneth Mawson Cllr David Ritson Cllr Andrew Williams
	Clerk/RFO	Mr Ian Turner
	Public	Mrs Brenda Parsons

Item

1 Apologies

Cllr Brian Goulding, Cllr Dr Craig Ashton

2 Announcements from the Chair

None

3 Declarations of interest by councillors in respect to agenda items

None

4 Minutes of the previous meeting of 6th January 2016

These were unanimously **proposed** as a fair and accurate record of the meeting.

4.1 Actions arising from that meeting

The Chair reported that the work on repairing the damaged culvert on Santon Way was being held up by administrative issues, but that the work would commence shortly.

5 Public participation

5.1 The Chair welcomed Mrs Parsons to the meeting. Mrs Parsons asked the Council how much money it had spent on maintenance in this financial year. Cllr Halliday replied that the financial year had not been completed, but indications were that there would be a significant over-spend. This was due to the large number of repairs undertaken to Parish property. He explained that some money was ring-fenced for certain purposes, and was not included in the revenue calculations. He explained that there were, in effect two distinct pots of money, revenue, which deals with the day-to-day expenditure (administration, grounds maintenance and bills, etc.) and capital, which is money that is for use on Parish projects (Christmas lights, asset transfers, etc.) He said that this year's high maintenance bill had used up some of the capital reserves of the Parish. Fortunately, the capital pot had been increased, but this was a temporary infusion, and may not occur in future.

5.2 Mrs Parsons asked whether a fence would be erected around the children's play area on the beach front, to prevent cars and cycles parking on or driving through the play ground. The Chair said that it would not be a sensible use of Parishioner's money to erect a fence there,

when the area was due for complete refurbishment by the Seascale Community Beach Park Project. Cllr Eastwood said that if an existing fence there was damaged, the Parish would seek to repair it when the weather improved. Mrs Parsons left the meeting.

6 Reports from Committees and Councillors

6.1 The councillors heard a report from the Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. Cllr Halliday asked the Council to approve a new pay deal for the Janitor. This was unanimously **approved**.

6.2 Cllr Halliday asked the Council for a ruling on billing the Sports Hall and users of the Pavilion. Following the ruling, the Chair asked the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements. The Clerk **agreed** to do this.

7 Finance

7.1 The Council received a report from the RFO on the finance of the Parish (attached/available on request).

7.2 The Council unanimously agreed to all requests for payment.

7.3 The Council **adopted** the Finance and General Purposes Committee recommendation for the level of precept to be raised from the Parish for 2016/2017 at £19,927. This is a 2% rise on the previous year representing an additional £390 overall, which will cost each Parishioner an extra 22p per annum. The precept was **proposed** by Cllr Halliday, seconded by Cllr Williams, and there were no objections.

8 To consider any planning issues

8.1 The Council advised that on the matter of application 4/16/2005, a double garage for 57 Gosforth Road, it should be allowed with no reservation.

9 To receive a report on Parish Assets

9.1 The Chair reported that he had removed the damaged fence at the Coniston Avenue **play area**.

9.2 Cllr Eastwood said that, while the **Library** situation had been discussed at the Mid-Copeland Parish meeting, no development of significance had occurred.

9.3a The Chair said that he had removed the **broken bench** from Cross Lanes, but could not remove the bench at Hallsenna Road without specialist equipment.

9.3b Cllr Eastwood asked the Council to install grab handles in the toilets. It was unanimously **agreed** that this would be of benefit to elderly users.

9.4 The Councillors debated the purchase of additional **Christmas lights**. After some discussion, Mr Garner's request was turned down. However, the Chair asked the Clerk to liaise with Mr Garner in sourcing a compromise that would suit both parties. The Clerk **agreed** to try.

10 To consider matters relating to the Highways

10.1 Cllr Mawson asked the Clerk to inform Cumbria County Council Highways Department of a considerable build-up of sand on Drigg Road. The Clerk **agreed** to do this.

11 To consider transport issues in the Parish

- 11.1** Cllr Eastwood informed the Council that there would be a public meeting in the Library on the morrow regarding the withdrawal of the bus service from the village. She said that there was considerable support in the village and at Gosforth for maintaining a service, and she hoped that this could be achieved.
- 11.2** The Chair informed the Council that he and Cllr Eastwood had attended a meeting with Network Rail, along with the County Cllr Clarkson and members of the Cumbria Rail Users Group on the platform at Seascale Station, to try to resolve issues around the train service to the village. Network Rail agreed to adjust the halt marker for the engine to line up the carriages with the platform ramps, but said this could take a little time. They also informed attendees that the large antiquated diesels would serve as pushers for at least the next three years.

12 Correspondence

As well as the usual correspondence, the Chair was pleased to have received a letter from the Girl Guides, thanking the Parish for allowing them to 'Geocache' on Council land.

13 Urgent items raised by councillors

- 13.1** Cllr Williams was pleased to inform the Council that he had met the PCSO, and that he had seen her patrolling the village and tackling the issue of illegal parking near the shops.
- 13.2** Cllr Eastwood said that she was dismayed at the threat to Mr Eric Barker's position as Copeland's Parish Co-ordinator. She said that he provides a valuable service to the Parish Councils in the Borough.
- 13.3** Cllr Eastwood announced that the Amenities Committee would be organising a 'Village Spring Clean' at some point in the near future.

14 Dates of forthcoming meetings

The next scheduled meeting of the full Council is 7pm on Wednesday 2nd March 2016 in the Methodist Schoolroom.